Industrial Labour Welfare Association Ltd.,
Avanashi Road, :: Coimbatore.

12th Vacational Course, 1957.

Inaugural Address by

Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar,

Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University

and

Introductory Speech by

Mr. G. D. Naidu,

President, I. L. W. A. Ltd.

Gopal Bagh, 29—4—57 Coimbatore.

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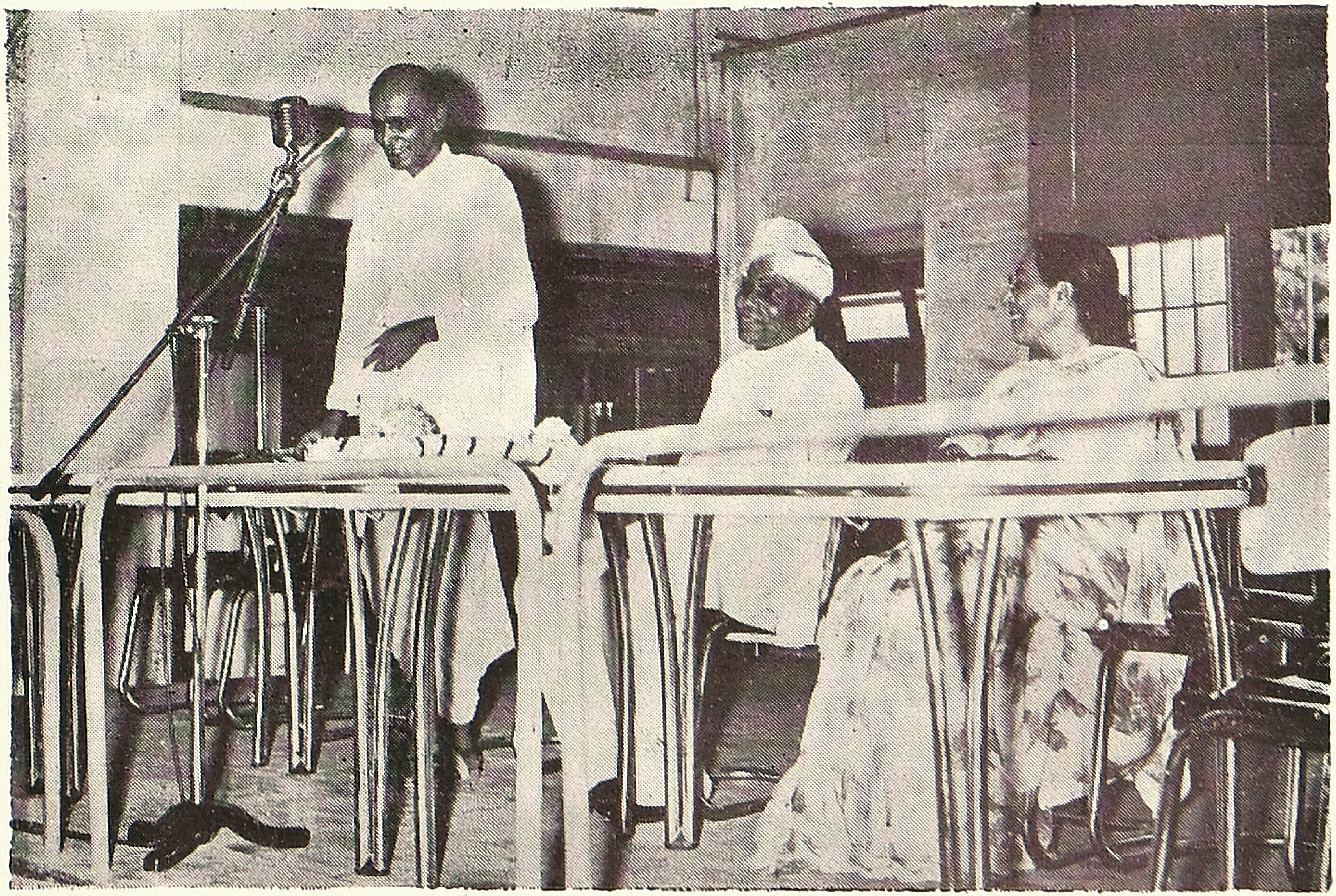
Having learnt that Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University was likely to come to Coimbatore to inspect and see if a Medical College could be started in Coimbatore this year itself, our president Mr. G. D. Naidu arranged with the Vice-Chancellor to spare a few minutes to deliver an inaugural speech to the Automobile Service Engineering and Radio Service Engineering students of the 12th Vacational Course. The Vice-Chancellor was kind enough to accept Mr. Naidu's invitation and delivered a speech.

The speeches of Mr. G. D. Naidu and Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar are given here.



SPEECH BY
Mr. G. D. NAIDU,
on 29—4—'57.

Friends,

I hope all the students gathered here know our Vice-chancellor Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar and so there is no necessity for me to give any introductory speech. By mere accident he has come here and not by invitation. Learning that he will be here to-day, I invited him day-before-yesterday by a letter asking him to come here and stay with me. In that letter I have mentioned that from a very long time, whenever he comes, he will be staying with me and now after his son's marriage at Coimbatore, he is staying in Mr. A. T. Krishnaswami Mudaliar's house. I requested him to stay with me this time for some discussion on some important matters connected with education, somehow or other he has come here. Now he is going to address you and you are fortunate in hearing his advice.

You must know that he has come here for some other purpose – a very important one i. e. to inspect the Arts College and to

take, if possible, the Arts College building for locating a Medical College, to be opened here in this town this year. Now that it is 4 P. M. and he is leaving by 6 P. M., I do not know what he is going to decide within another two hours. What happened here upto now, as far as I know, I will say.

The medical college is to be located in the premises of the Govt. Arts College, which is to be shifted elsewhere. About the 10th of April, Mr. G. K. Devarajulu and Mr. R. C. Joseph, Collector of Coimbatore came here to Gopal Bagh. Both of them insisted on me to provide a building somehow or other in order to accommodate the Arts College in Coimbatore, whether inside the town or outside the town. Their requirements are three big halls for lectures, five standard halls for lectures and another two halls for lecturers and office and two halls for laboratory and library. The rooms may be terraced or double roofed with aluminium or cement sheets. These halls are wanted within two months. They asked me to give this place. But I did not mention anything definitely at that time. I suggested them to inspect the hall at Podanur finished for diesel factory, which is more than the required total area for the college, where water and other facilities are available. Before seeing that, I asked them

to go and see the Nirmala College new buildings. If that is not available, they can do something in this building. The matter was under discussion. If Podanur building is not suitable, structures can be erected within the western portion of the "President Compound" within June end. But to-day if you raise any objection to the starting of a medical college in Coimbatore for want of a suitable building, I am prepared to put the structures required in Podanur or here. We shall discuss with Mr. Devarajulu Naidu, but my request to you is that you must give your permission; please give your promise to start the Medical College now itself. For that you can't say any excuse, except, want of a building. For building I am prepared to undertake. 10 years or 12 years back, in an instance like this, I promised the Vice-Chancellor a complete building would be ready in 6 weeks' time to open an Engineering College. I did complete the building and the Engineering college was opened and the Vice-Chancellor did give affiliation too. Now, in the same way within these two months, buildings can be provided for the Arts College. Therfore, the Vice-Chancellor cannot refuse giving this town a Medical College. I hope you will agree with me and you will announce here that the medical college will be opened here

in the month of July. To ask that only I wanted to discuss with you, and for that purpose only I wanted you to stay here with me.

Anyhow you have come here and after coming here, I take this opportunity and request you to inaugurate this course to-day. From tomorrow morning the short-term course will be started here and I request you to give your advice to the students in addition to the promise that the medical college will be opened in July. (cheers)

I have also arranged with the Philips to show the Television to the students and give a demonstration with lecture on 1st May 1957.

Thanking you for having responded to my request.

SPEECH BY

Dr. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR

Friends,

If I had not known Mr. G. D. Naidu as intimately as I had known him for many many years, I would perhaps feel embarrassed by the way in which he has tried to introduce me and in fact to impress me with his ideas which is called the Infilteration method of the Soviet, to put idealogies into other people's head, so that they may speak about it. This is also what people call "Brain Washing" for want of a better name.

Now I must be very frank, I am only one of the four. Discussions will be going on as to the location of the Arts College. We have seen the conditions under which the Medical College can be started here. They may also say that four or five years ago, when we had to inspect several other places, as the chairman of the committee I said, in my opinion perhaps Coimbatore lent itself best to the starting of a medical college, because of the conditions in which hospitals were working here. I am as

anxious as Mr. G. D. Naidu to see that a medical college is established in Coimbatore, provided proper personnel for teaching are available and recruited and other conditions necessary, because here it is not the University that is responsible alone; we have to satisfy another big body sitting in Delhi, which is known as the Indian Medical Council, which is some times very harsh in its judgment and I am one of those who never like to get a remark from any such quarter situated in Delhi, whatever may be the objective we may have to take. So, Mr. Naidu need not be anxious about the starting of a medical college and as for the suggestions that he has just now read, this is the first time I hear about them. So, I will have an opportunity to discuss with other people as to the possibilities of the research - interim arrangement being made.

But I was very glad to have the opportunity of addressing you as the class which has to start its work tomorrow in a very important field of practical training in which I can think of no one better equipped and better placed than Mr. G. D. Naidu. Every one knows throughout the length and breadth of India that Mr. G. D. Naidu is a personality in himself - in fact it is a phenomenon which is unknown to the rest of the world. I have known him for many

many years and I am amazed at the amount of energy and enthusiasm that he can bring to bear on certain of his tasks. I am sure that the training which you will get within the next six weeks will be such as you will never feel sorry for. It will excell in many respects, I am prepared to say, the practical training given in much better circumstances in institutions all over. I myself have seen the method in which he enthuses the students in a very short time to pick up practical training and to utilize it. But also I have often told him that it is possible only with certain individuals who have very highly trained sense of organization and who can enthuse their co-workers to assist. In other fields, it is always a disappointment when you try to rush through. Your opportunities here in training for six weeks will be such that when you have had your training, you will feel that it is quite sufficient for you to start on your own. I have no doubt about it. I have seen these things occuring before, and in practical work, it is the manner in which you try to put your heart to it - it is not the question of reading theoretical things and repeating them by heart, it is a question of training your hands and your eyes and your inner skill to the requisite task. You find in training your hands and your eyes - you have that sense of quick understanding

in regard to practical designs, you can do wonders. I have always said that the youth in India are not in any way less well fitted for these tasks than the youth in any other country. The only drawback that we have is that when we are young, we are asked by our parents " Don't touch this, don't touch that, you will have your hand burnt, you will have your foot injured", whereas in other countries they have what people may call "Dare Devils". They climb up the tree and may fall and fracture their arm to know what a fracture is. They probably go to the oven and burn themselves, some-times of course with disastrous consequences, but they will always try to do something which is more or less of an enterprising nature. Our children generally are brought up as if they are more or less hot house plants. That is the defect with us because of the parents.

Now Mr. Naidu wants to do away with all those defects and make you rush to the world and get you the training that you want. As one very interested in technical education in all spheres, I must thank Mr. Naidu for introducing these courses. I think it is not necessary for you to have certificates with all the decorations and signed by numerous people with all sorts of alphabetical equations against their names.

You get a certificate signed by Mr. G. D. Naidu, I can tell you that you must pass anywhere in the engineering field. Therefore, you are really very fortunate in getting this training. He tells me that he has taken students who have passed various grades of examinations and he is trying to train them. I see he is taking also some lady students. I do not know whether he had them before, but I hope they will prove worthy of the training. But now-a-days, ladies are fit for everything, for which men are not generally fit also. That is the claim at any rate and I hope that claim is fully satisfied by those who are having the training.

I wish you all success and I hope that this training will stand you in good stead, not to get employment only but to do the work that you can, besides the employment that you may have. That is how village industry should develop. You must go out to the villages - you may be a school teacher or you may be anything but you have a side vocation, which you can put to great use. If you want village industries to develop, if you want household things to develop, if you want any small things to be done in the villages, it is you people that are responsible. Very often large sums of money are spent in villages in illthoughtout

fields. They want a well to be dug in Coimbatore, you have to go to the bottomless pit, I don't know whether you call it hell or heaven, but if the pump that is set up goes wrong, there is nobody to repair that. It is this sort of training that will give you an idea about how to set up these small things, which are so necessary for the amenities of the village. A clock goes wrong, some switch somewhere goes wrong, or some mechanical device is not there, then the whole lot of that machinery bought at a cost of thousands of rupees lies idle and a fresh one is ordered. This is the sort of training that is necessary and it is for this reason in the revised courses of instruction in our high schools, we have insisted on this type of training given to the boys, besides of course, certain amount of knowledge of the subjects which will be always useful for recreational study or otherwise, literature, history etc.

I wish you all success and I hope when you go out, you will remember Mr. Naidu and bring credit to the efforts he is making so generously for your sake.

PRINTED AT
THE U. M S. POWER PRESS,
COIMBATORE.